

## State Injury Indicators



### Unintentional Fire-Related Fatalities

Category:	Fire-Related Indicators
Demographic Group:	All residents.
Numerator:	Deaths with any of the following ICD-10 codes as an underlying cause of death: X00-X09 (Exposure to smoke, fire, and flames).
Denominator:	Midyear population for the calendar year under surveillance.
Measures of Frequency:	Annual number of deaths. Annual mortality rate—crude and age-adjusted (standardized by the direct method to the year 2000 standard U.S. population).
Period for Case Definition:	Calendar year.
Background:	The United States mortality rate from fires ranks sixth among the 25 develop countries for which statistics are available.* Four out of five deaths in 2005 occurred in homes** and approximately half of home fire deaths occurred in homes without fire alarms.***
Limitations of Indicator:	Injuries severe enough to result in death represent only a small proportion of the overall burden of injury. An evaluation of only these injuries may not present an accurate picture of the causes of less-severe injuries.
Data Resources:	Death certificate data from vital statistics agencies (numerator) and population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau or suitable alternative (denominator).
Limitations of Data Resources:	The accuracy of indicators based on codes found in vital statistics data is limited by the completeness and quality of coding. The overall completeness of external cause coding on death data is uniformly high. Coding criteria specify that all cases of injury death must contain an injury code in the underlying-cause-of-death field.
Healthy People 2010 Objectives:	15–25: Reduce residential fire deaths
CDC's Health Protection Goals:	Healthy People in Every Stage of Life: Crosscutting Healthy People in Healthy Places: Healthy Homes

\*International Association for the Study of Insurance Economics. World fire statistics: information bulletin of the world fire statistics. Geneva (Switzerland): The Geneva Association; 2003. \*\*Karter MJ. Fire loss in the United States during 2005, Abridged report. Quincy (MA): National Fire Protection Association, Fire Analysis and Research Division; 2006. \*\*\*Ahrens M. U.S. experience with smoke alarms and other fire alarms. Quincy (MA): National Fire Protection Association; 2004.